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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 0553-0308

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)
Yamazaki et al.)
Serial No: 10/098,688)
Filed: March 15, 2002)
Art Unit: 1762)
Examiner: Bret P. Chen)
For: HEAT TREATMENT APPARATUS)
AND HEAT TREATMENT METHOD)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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DATE: December 4, 2003

NAME: Kristine Callahan

SIGNATURE: Kristine Callahan

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT A

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

12/10/2003 MMEKONEN 00000064 10098688

01 FC:1202

378.00 OP

IN THE TITLE:

Please amend the title of the application as follows:

~~HEAT TREATMENT APPARATUS AND~~ HEAT TREATMENT METHOD